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# BOYS' AND GIRLS' 4-H CLUB LEADER



## To Make the Best Better

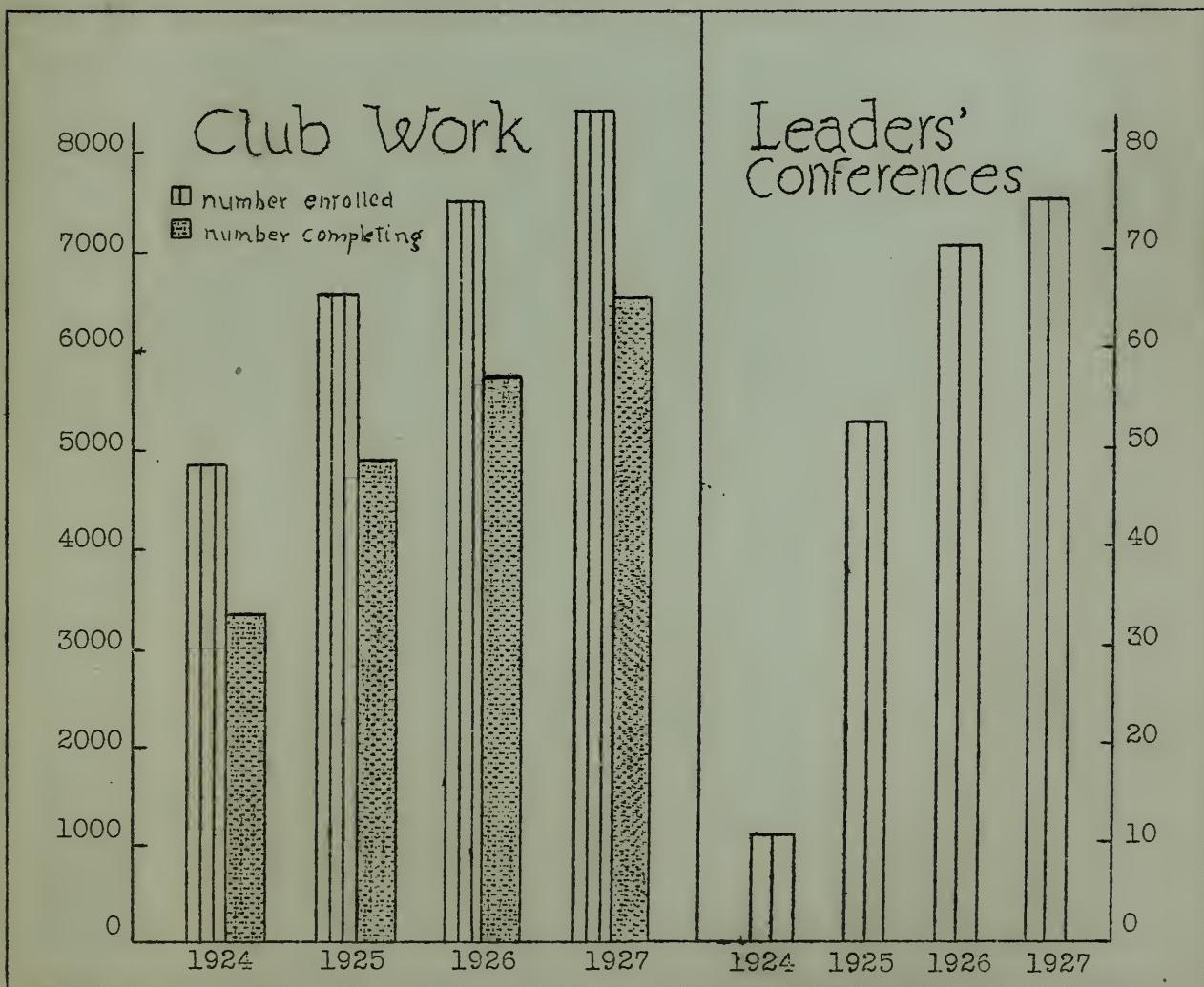
Issued monthly in the interest of the rural boys' and girls' 4-H clubs conducted by the cooperative extension service of the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Agricultural Colleges

Vol. 2, No. 12

Washington, D.C.

December, 1928

### RELATION OF COUNTY CONFERENCES FOR LOCAL LEADERS TO DEVELOPMENT OF 4-H CLUB WORK - ILLINOIS



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The chart on the previous page shows, Illinois State Club Leader E. I. Pilchard believes, some results from increasing numbers of local club leaders' conferences, over a period of four years, 1924 to 1927, inclusive. The results include a larger enrollment of club members, and, with this larger enrollment, a higher percentage of completions each year.

Mr. Pilchard says, regarding the 1927 conferences: "An attempt was made to hold local leaders' conferences in all of the counties adopting club work as a major project in their extension program for the first time. In addition, conferences were held by the counties which had previously introduced this plan. In some cases counties exchanged personnel in holding leaders' conferences."

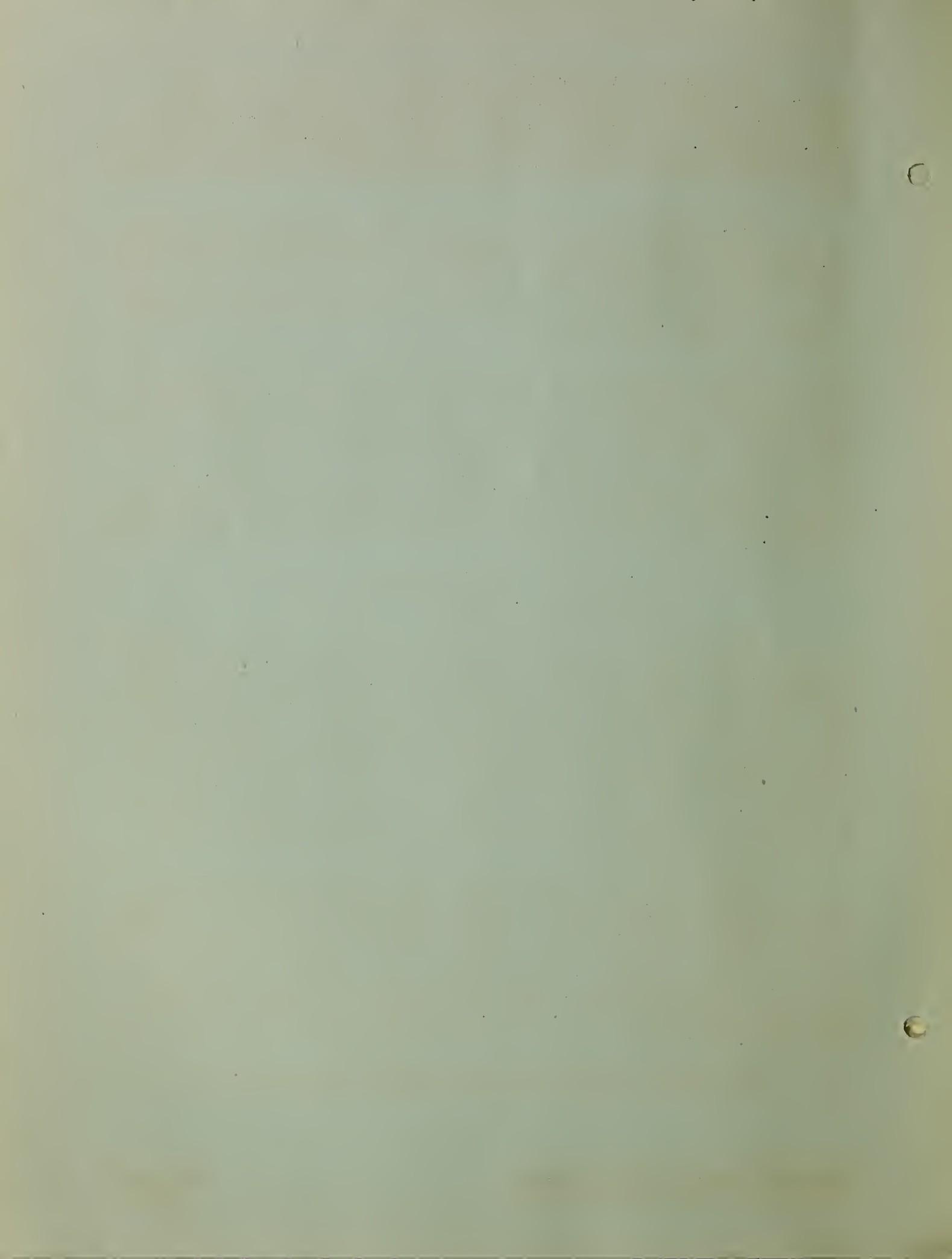
Most of the conferences, he explains, began at 10 o'clock in the morning and continued until about 2 in the afternoon. The county club committee prepared the program to suit the particular needs of their county, making such use as they wished of suggestions sent out by the State office. A typical program includes 10-minute discussions of such topics as "Securing club members," "Duties of the local leader," "The parents' place in club meetings," "Program of work for clubs," "Value of the club tour," and "Illinois 4-H club work," followed by round-table discussions.

CAMP PLUMMER  
Portland, Oreg., November 4 to 10, 1928

Camp Plummer's official flag was raised with ceremonies November 4, with 422 club boys and girls, extension State leaders, county extension agents and local club leaders from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah, and Nevada in attendance at the Pacific Livestock Exposition at Portland, Oreg. The educational club activities may be listed as follows: (1) Stock judging by county club teams, (2) stock exhibits in club and open classes, (3) State team demonstrations for the Camp Plummer trophy, (4) potato-grading contest, (5) girls' judging contest in canning, baking, and sewing, (6) health contest, (7) corn and potato exhibits in club and open classes in the Land Products Show, (8) exposition tours, and (9) educational Portland tours.

Forty county club stock-judging teams (120 club members) had the opportunity to judge some of the best stock in the country. The team from Ada County, Idaho, made the highest score with Spokane County, Wash., a close second, and Clatsop County, Oreg., third. Keen interest was shown in the team demonstrations, representing the five States in competition for the Camp Plummer trophy. Utah, the holder of the trophy for 1926 again gained possession of the flag, surrendered by Washington, the trophy winner for 1927.

The highest score in the potato-grading contest was made by a



club member of Grays Harbor, Wash., and the home-economics judging team of Thurston County, Wash., carried off first honors. The highest scores in the boys' and girls' health contest were made by Ava Baker, Portland, Oreg., and Marion Robinson of Clackamas County, Oreg.

There were 562 entries, a 25 per cent increase in the number of club livestock exhibits over 1927, and the club exhibits in the Land Products Show doubled the number in 1927.

The entertainment features which the Camp Plummer delegates enjoyed was a delightful banquet and an evening at the horse show. One gala and colorful event was the parade of the club livestock, club members, and leaders around the arena one evening at the horse show. Boys' and girls' 4-H club interests of the States represented at Camp Plummer donated toward the presentation of a beautiful automobile sedan to Mr. O. M. Plummer, Manager of the Pacific International Livestock Exposition.

Camp Plummer in 1929 will enjoy a new building which will be built and equipped by public-spirited citizens for the use of activities of all educational organizations and agencies represented at the Pacific International Livestock Exposition.

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#### OTHER SHOWS

According to reports, there was an excellent showing of baby beefes and fat barrows at the Interstate 4-H Club Show and Sale, which was recently held at Ak-sar-ben Field, Omaha, Nebr. An Angus steer exhibited by Howard Hill of Madison County, Iowa, won the grand championship. The reserve grand champion was a Hereford and was shown by Arland Schmidt of Madison County, Nebr.

¶

The 40 baby-beef club members of Boone County, Mo., showed their calves on November 13 at the Livestock Judging Pavilion, University Farm, Columbia, Mo., where winners were picked and prizes amounting to \$300 were awarded. Most of the animals were then shipped to St. Louis for exhibition and sale at the Producers Livestock Commission Association's Show.

¶

A special feature of the Seventh Annual Capital City Poultry and Egg Show, to be held at Baton Rouge, La., December 6 to 9, will be a series of 4-H club demonstrations. Teams from 15 parishes will compete for the \$75 in prizes which have been offered. W. C. Abbott, State club leader, will be in charge of this department of the show.

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1. *Leucanthemum vulgare* L. - Common Dandelion  
Common Name: Dandelion  
Habitat: Roadsides, lawns, fields, waste places.

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## THIS AND THAT

On August 21, Nicollet County, Minn., dedicated the "T. A. Erickson Club Building," at the county fairgrounds. The building was built from funds contributed by 4-H club members, farmers' organizations, bankers, and other business men in the county interested in club work. There is a brass plate in the building, giving its name, and the name of the individuals who contributed in order that it might be built.

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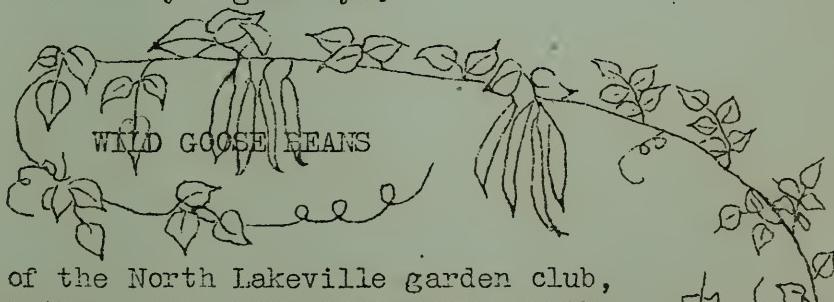
Janie Epting, of Newberry County, S. C., is the 4-H club girl in the State with the best "all-round" club records in 1928. Her period of club work covers seven years, and every project open to girls in the State, and a first place in a State contest, second in a gardening contest, also second State winner in a cooperative-marketing essay contest.

¶

The Prescott Handicraft Club, Ogemaw County, Mich., made up of 16 members, made 58 useful articles for the home, valued at \$553.68. The cost of making the articles was \$277.51, leaving a profit of \$276.17. The boys spent 659 hours and 45 minutes on their projects.

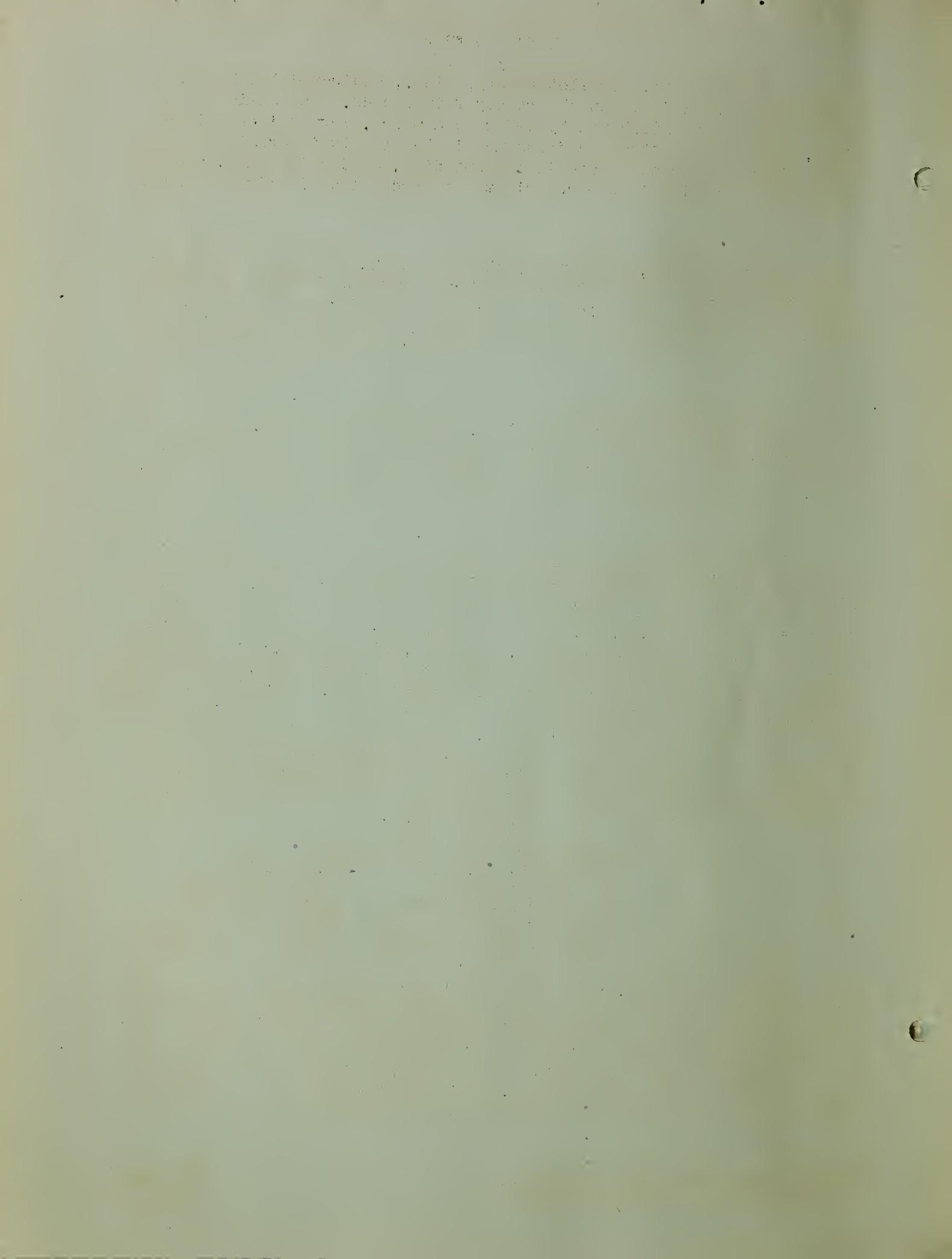
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Lyle Sherburn, of Marshall County, S. Dak., has had more than his share of hard luck with his cattle projects since 1923, but he still believes in club work. Beginning in 1923, he lost his baby-beef calf three out of four years, through blood poisoning, reaction to tuberculin test, and black leg, respectively. In 1927, with his baby-beef Shorthorn steer tested for tuberculosis and vaccinated for black leg, it seemed that everything was all set for a very satisfactory year. A cyclone destroyed the barn, however, and since there was no place to house the calf properly, he failed to come up to expectations. Lyle continued in the baby-beef work in 1928 and came through without serious mishap, placing well above the average in the State show. In addition to his baby-beef work, he has carried on sow litter and sheep projects and for the last year, he has been the leader of a club of younger boys.



Barbara Vinal, of the North Lakeville garden club, Mass., planted some beans this year which were found in the crop of a wild goose. She was quite pleased at the results. She reports that the beans cooked in about half the time it took to cook ordinary beans, and that they were wide in pod and large in size. The vines, so 'tis said, were so heavily laden that they broke down three of the poles to which they were trellised.





THIS AND THAT (continued)

Two hundred Rockingham County, N. H., 4-H club members showed their Heart-H spirit at the close of the county round-up at Exeter, on November 3, when they made a 9-mile journey with jars of canned goods, clothing, bedding, some pictures, blankets, and big shapeless bundles from farm kitchens, to North Danville, where the home of Helen Bernaby had been destroyed by fire. Helen, who is a junior at the University of New Hampshire, has been a leader of a 4-H canning club for the last several years.

¶

Jean and Myra Sauer, twin sisters of Washoe County, Nev., make up the State champion demonstration team. How to wield the brush, hammer, and needle in making an old farm room look like new is the subject of their demonstration.

¶

Veteran 4-H club boys of Kootenai County, Idaho, told members of the Coeur d'Alene Kiwanis Club just what 4-H club work had meant to them at a luncheon given for 85 4-H boys and girls and 15 local leaders and parents. Three of these boys had been in club work seven years winning national honors, while the other speaker, a local leader, wore a five-year badge.

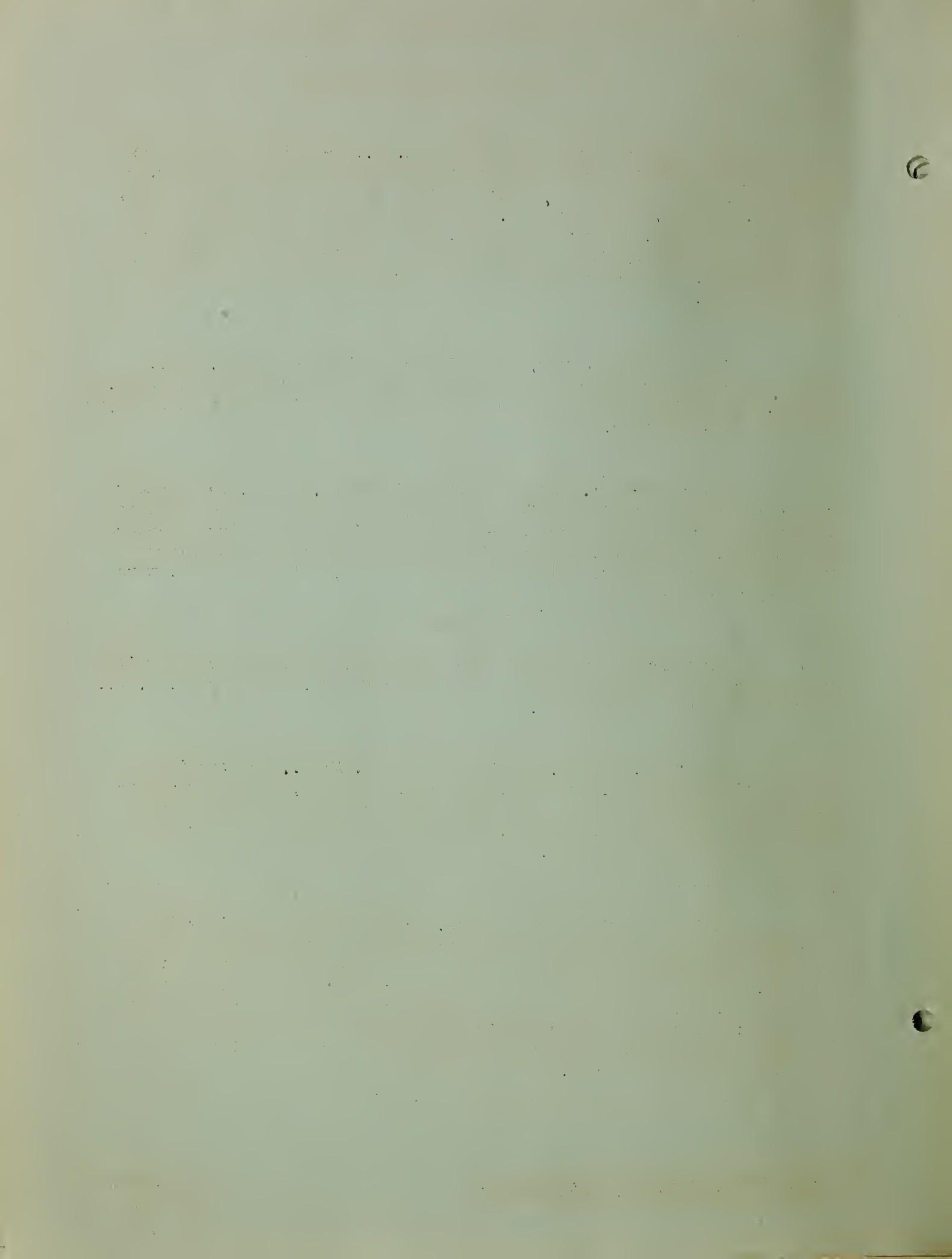
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Forty leaders attended a 4-H leadership training school which was conducted for rural teachers of Buncombe County, at Biltmore, N. C., from October 30 to November 2.

¶

Van Buren, Antrim, and Kent Counties, Mich., are working closely with Raymond F. Kroodsma, extension forester, in the organization of 4-H forestry clubs. In these three counties this year there were three clubs with 57 members. All of these members are enrolled in the tree-planting project.

During the first four months, ending October 31, in which Capper-Ketcham funds have been available, 197 new extension workers have been appointed on these funds in the 39 States reporting to date. Thirty-four of these are county agricultural agents in new counties; 43, assistant county agricultural agents; 2, negro county agents; 62, county home demonstration agents and 9 assistants; 6 negro home agents; 22 men and 18 women county club agents; and a State girls' club agent.



## ABOUT LOUISIANA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

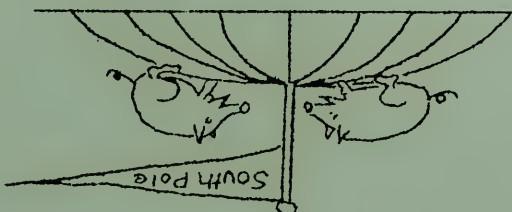
Louisiana has both parish executive committees and a State 4-H executive committee. The parish organization consists of two representatives of each standard club, the county agents and the parish superintendent of education. The committee meets upon the call of the county agents. Two meetings per year are required, although in some parishes the committee meets monthly. Officers of the committee are elected and a parish-wide program of work is developed. A typical parish-wide program includes: (1) Plans for parish club gatherings as rally, camp, or short course; (2) plans for contest day and club fair or exhibiting at parish fair; (3) adopting a parish 4-H budget; (4) assessing the various clubs according to membership in order to raise funds for parish budget. In addition to electing officers of the committee, two representatives to serve on the State 4-H executive committee are elected.

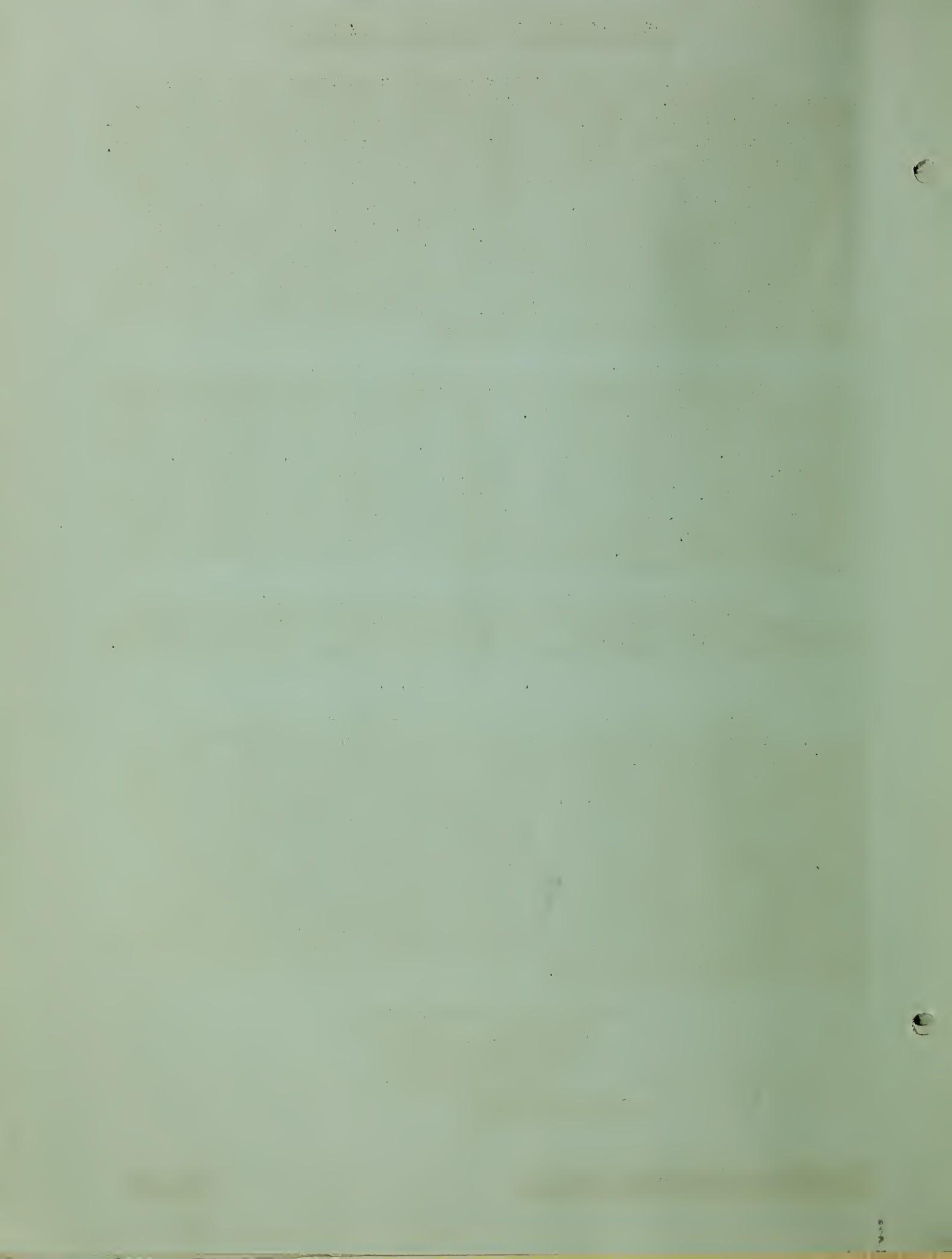
The State 4-H organization consists of two representatives from each organized parish and the State club leader and State home demonstration agent are ex officio members. This committee meets annually at the State short course where State officers are elected and reports are given by each parish. The officers, president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, together with a fifth member, also elected, constitute the board of control. The board of control is charged with appropriating the State 4-H club fund, which is contributed by each parish at the rate of 5 cents per member. The State club leader and State home demonstration agent are advisory members of the board.

The Louisiana 4-H stock-judging team was recently sent to the State fair of Texas at Dallas. Transportation to this event was furnished by a railroad while other expenses were paid from the State 4-H club fund.

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Virginia hogs, raised by 4-H club members in Princess Anne County, have gone with Commander Byrd to find the South Pole. When the expedition ships were loading supplies at Hampton Roads, the purchasing agent went to Princess Anne County in search of breeding hogs to furnish pork for the three years that the party expects to spend away from the haunts of civilization. He was informed that two 4-H club boys, Prior and David Gimbert, had some excellent Poland China hogs. These were found, upon inspection, to be perfectly suited for the purpose and 6 gilts and 1 boar were bought. It is understood that these animals will be used as a breeding herd and that pork needed will be raised aboard ship while the party is in the South Pole region. These boys will wonder many times during the next three years how their hogs are faring away down at the bottom of the world.





AIDS FOR SHORT

and for those

Every 4-H club member who attended the Florida short course for boys at Gainesville this summer, carried home with him a loose-leaf notebook which he had learned to use at the university.

He was given the book when he arrived at the campus. It contained mimeographed pages showing the short-course schedule and suggestions for the week's activities.

He found, too, short statements about the university, the college of agriculture, and the extension service.

After these came one-page summaries of what the Florida farmer needs to know on such subjects as cotton cultivation, insects, dairying, pigs, and pastures.

There were plenty of blank pages for notes, the group photograph fitted in nicely, and the short-course newspaper was perforated to go into the binder.

Leadership suggestions to be used for the home club, and notes on writing club news completed the book.

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COURSE MEMBERS

who did not attend

Camp Wilkins, Ga., campers also had loose-leaf notebooks for their use both during their stay on the campus of Georgia State College of Agriculture and for good, hard leadership work when they got back home.

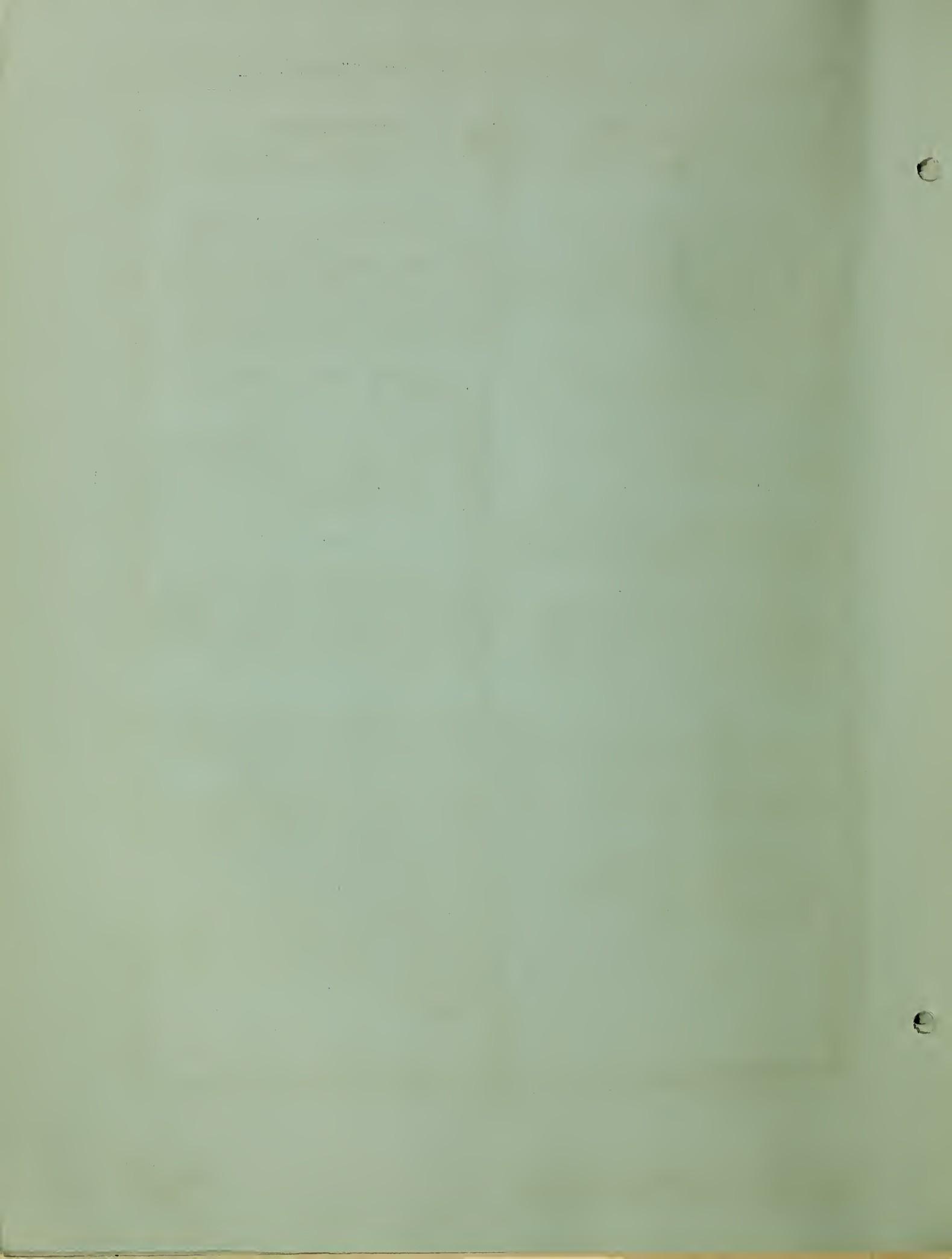
Included also in the Georgia notebook are club songs and words, music, and action directions for the performance of a 4-H club "melody-drama" by J. T. Wheeler and A. L. E. Blackshear.

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All the club girls in Washington County, Md., shared a little bit in the good things of club week at the University of Maryland, College Park, this year.

The girls who went to College Park kept both eyes and ears open while there and when they returned home, went into council with Arda Martin, their county home demonstration agent, and the mimeographed annual "Memories of Club Week," resulted, written and illustrated by the girls, themselves. "A glimpse at demonstrations," "Council circles," and "Vespers," gave everybody a share in the benefits of the club week programs.

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## TIPS FROM FOUR STATES

Mildred Schenck, assistant State club leader, reports that a popular way of earning pin money among some of the club members in St. Louis County, Minn., is to gather and sell balsam needles, which are made into pillows; pine branches, which are made into wreaths; and pine knots.

¶

Lee I. Towsley, county club agent, Newport County, R. I., reports much interest among club members in his county in a new club project known as the farm mechanics club. These clubs are designed for older boys and will include knots and hitches, making of a rope halter, repairing a harness, soldering, and other similar subjects of interest to farm boys. Similar clubs will be organized in other parts of Rhode Island where sufficient interest is shown.

¶

Wisconsin is putting on a 4-H home talent play tournament. Nine counties have already entered the tournament, which will be the limit allowed this year. Each county puts on a contest to select the club to represent it in the district contest, of which there will be four in number. The winners in the district contests will be sent to the State contest, which is to be held at the agricultural college during the farmers' week program in February. Each club works up its own play, using only boys and girls. Extra credit is given for local authorship. It is hoped in this way to provide much winter recreation, advertise club work, and build up a greater interest in the young people in self-entertainment.

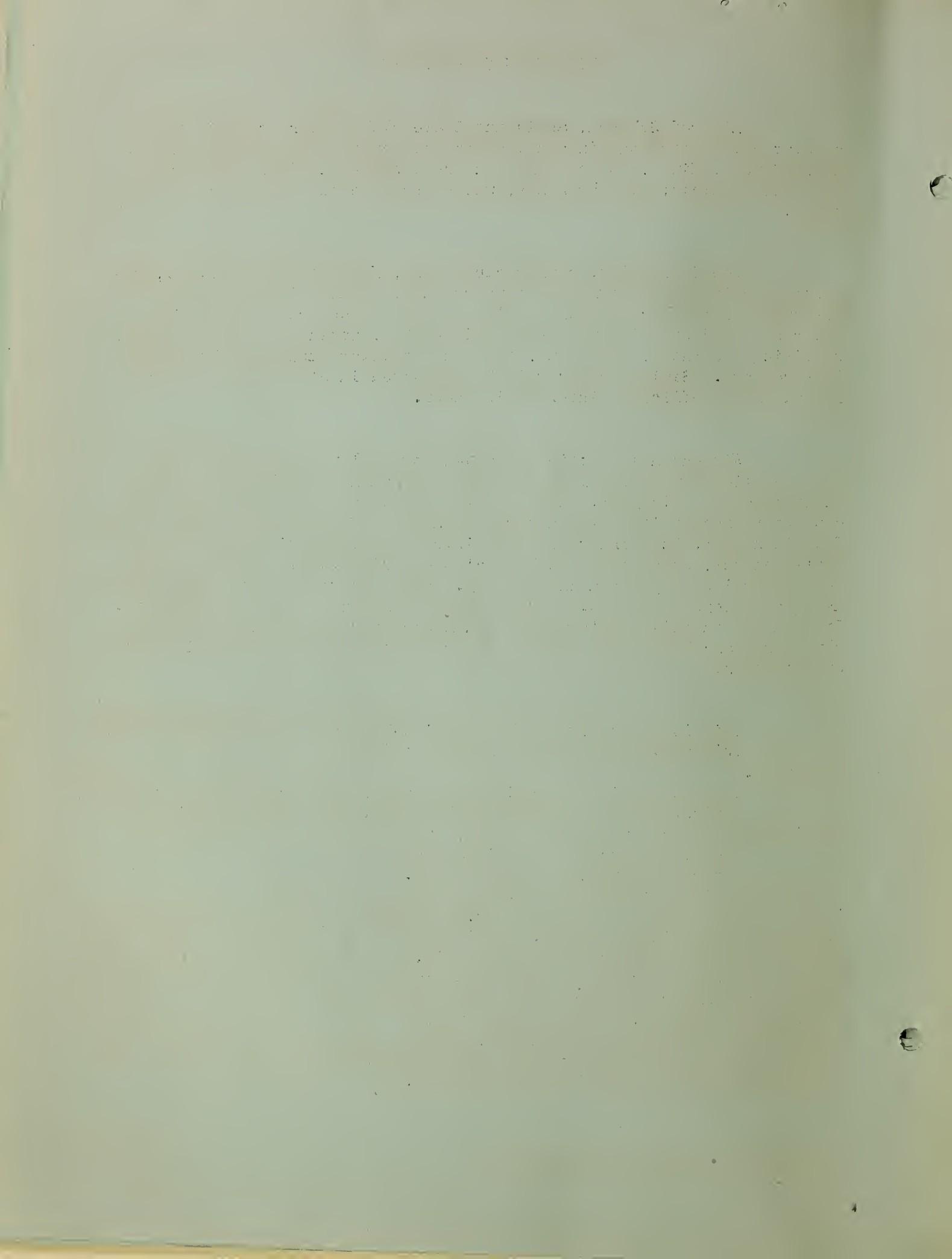
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This is the story of the girls' 4-H club of Cedar Falls, Wash., who, with initiative and lots of energy, achieved a most delightful little clubhouse.

The kitchen is equipped with a range, sink, cupboard, work table, and three chairs. It has linoleum on the floor. The sewing room is fitted up with five chairs, a cutting table, sewing machine, and chiffonier.

The girls first had the idea when the school board discarded an old woodshed. They were jokingly told they could have it if they would move it out of the way. Nothing daunted they obtained the help of a truck driver and several other men and moved it. With aid from the Parent-Teachers' Association and volunteer services from some of the men in the community, needed changes were made. While repairs were under way, the workmen were served lunch cooked in the 4-H club way by the girls. They did much of the interior finish themselves.

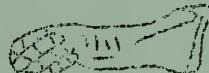




# THE GAUNTLET CLUB

FOUR CHALLENGES THIS MONTH

Mississippi claims to have the largest 4-H community club in the United States - the Martinsville 4-H Club of Simpson County, which has a membership of 162.



Two club members in the Marlboro 4-H club, New Hampshire, have not missed a club meeting for five years.



Louisiana challenges other States to beat this record.

Carl Keller, East Baton Rouge Parish, La., raised two ton litters from one sow in 12 months last year. The first litter weighed 3,009 pounds. The second weighed 2,100 pounds.



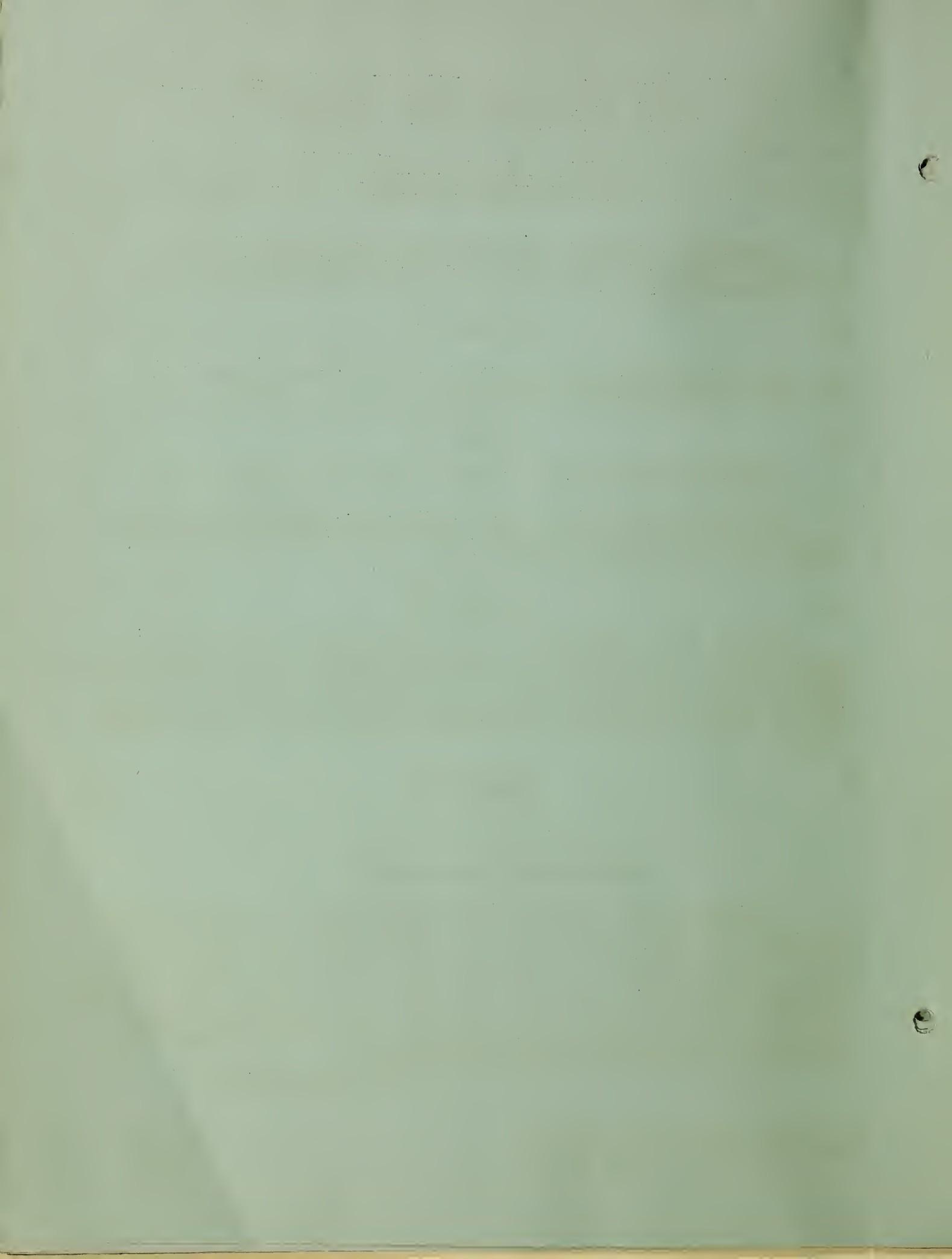
Otis E. Hall, county club agent, Hampden County, Mass., says: "We should like to know if there is an older man anywhere in the United States working actively with boys and girls as a local leader than our Mr. F. H. Sanborn. He is 83 years old and has been helping bee club boys and girls for nine years and is still as enthusiastic and hopeful as a young leader of 20."



## FINLAND UNDERTAKES CLUB WORK

"According to a recent official communication to the United States Department of State, a committee has been appointed to work out a proposal for establishing children's agricultural clubs in Finland, modeled after those in the United States. The chairman of the committee is Dr. J. James, former Finnish minister to Berlin. The work will be directed from a central office in Helsingfors with the assistance of local committees. Finland already has a few agricultural clubs, six of which are experimental clubs supported by a foundation in the United States."

-----Rural America.



## C A L E N D A R

Besides the usual 4-H poultry-judging contest, which is held in connection with the Madison Square Garden Poultry Show, New York City, there will be held at the coming show the first national 4-H poultry show. The exhibition is open to 4-H club members for the entry of individual birds of any breed. The dates of the show are January 16 to 20, 1929. The judging contest will take place January 19, 1929.

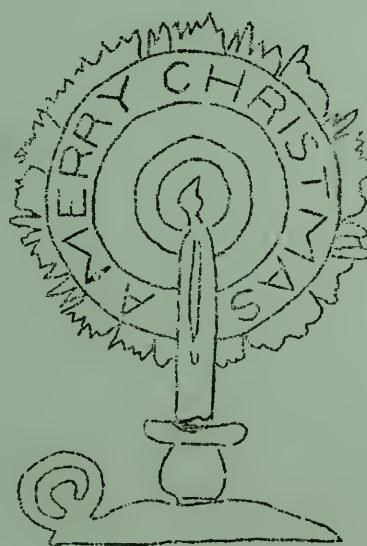
## AMONG OURSELVES

Edwin B. Hauser, instructor in Milwaukee County Agricultural School during the past year, has been appointed county club leader in Milwaukee County, Wis.

¶

Miss Maude Sheridan, State leader of club and home demonstration work in Colorado, has resigned to enter the commercial field. During her 12 years' work with the extension service, she has achieved a national reputation in boys' and girls' club work. Miss Sheridan began her work in 1916 as assistant boys' and girls' club leader, and was made State club leader three years later. She was placed in charge of administering all women's extension work, in addition to her other duties, in 1924.

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Boys' & Girls' 4-H Club Leader

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.